

CLAIMS:

1. A method of detecting a watermark in a signal, the method comprising the steps of computing a correlation between a sequence of signal samples and a predetermined watermark, and detecting whether said correlation exceeds a given threshold, characterized in that the method includes pre-processing of said sequence of signal samples, said pre-processing comprising the steps of:

- dividing the sequence of signal samples into sub-sequences;
- subjecting all signal samples of a sub-sequence to the same weighting, and varying said weighting from sub-sequence to sub-sequence to obtain a substantially flat distribution of signal samples over the sequence; and
- 5 – concatenating the weighted sub-sequences to obtain the pre-processed sequence of signal samples.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further including the step of accumulating a plurality of sequences of signal samples prior to correlation, characterized in that said pre-
10 processing is applied to said accumulated sequences.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of dividing the sequence of signal samples into sub-sequences comprises dividing into overlapping sub-sequences.

15 4. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said overlap is 50%.

5. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said step of dividing into overlapping sub-sequences includes applying a window function to said overlapping sub-sequences.

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6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of weighting comprises Fourier transforming the sub-sequence of signal samples, normalizing the magnitudes of the Fourier coefficients, and back-transforming the normalized coefficients.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of weighting comprises dividing all signal samples of a sub-sequence by the largest signal sample of said sub-sequence.

- 5 8. An arrangement for detecting a watermark in a signal, the arrangement comprising computing means for computing a correlation between a sequence of signal samples and a predetermined watermark, and thresholding means for detecting whether said correlation exceeds a given threshold, characterized in that the arrangement includes pre-processing means for pre-processing said sequence of signal samples, said pre-processing
- 10 means comprising:
- dividing means for dividing the sequence of signal samples into sub-sequences;
 - weighting means for subjecting all signal samples of a sub-sequence to the same weighting, and varying said weighting from sub-sequence to sub-sequence to obtain a substantially flat distribution of signal samples over the sequence; and
 - 15 – concatenating means for concatenating the weighted sub-sequences to obtain the pre-processed sequence of signal samples.

9. A computer program product arranged to cause a computer executing said computer program to carry out the method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7.